STATE SENATOR - HANSEN CLARKE - 1ST DISTRICT

Clarke Press Release

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-7346 • Fax: 517-373-9320 E-mail: hclarke@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.mi.gov/clarke



For Immediate Release Sen. Hansen Clarke (D-Detroit) May 25, 2005 517/373-7346

Clarke's Efforts Result in More Resources for Detroit Public Library

LANSING- Sen. Hansen Clarke (D-Detroit) expressed his gratitude today after Governor Jennifer Granholm signed legislation that will make the Detroit Public Library (DPL) directly eligible for library cooperative funding. House Bill 4225, signed into law this morning, is a House version of Senator Clarke's original Senate legislation.

"I'm delighted to see the House version of my proposal reach the Governor's desk," said Sen. Clarke.

"This law will result in more library resources to educate our children and improve the quality of life for the Detroit community."

When Detroit's population dropped under 1 million, the library was no longer eligible to be designated a library cooperative and, therefore, lost direct co-op funding. DPL joined an existing co-op, but their share of the cooperative funding was diverted. HB 4225 lowers the population threshold for a library serving 1 million people to a library serving 750,000, allowing DPL to regain their status as a library co-op, and to regain direct co-op funding.

"Thanks to today's action, this funding can now be spent on library improvements right here in Detroit rather than being diverted elsewhere."

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